

Department of
Community Services



715 South King Street
Suite 311
Honolulu, Hawaii
96813

Community Informational Meeting

River Street Residences

A Housing Project for Persons in Transition from Homelessness

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Beretania Community Park
1290 Aala Street

MAY 20 2 59 PM '09
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

The City and County of Honolulu cordially invites all interested residents, business owners, and community groups to an informational meeting concerning the proposed River Street Residences project. The City will provide updated information about the River Street Residences, address community questions and concerns, and record opinions and suggestions about the project.

About the River Street Residences

The River Street Residences is proposed to be developed on City-owned land located at 1330 River Street (near the intersection of River Street and Vineyard Boulevard). The project plans for about 100 rental units which will provide long term rental housing to persons in transition from homelessness. The project will provide housing to single individuals, couples, and small families, and persons with disabilities or special needs which could include persons with mental illness, substance abuse, and victims of domestic violence, taking a "housing first" approach. Priority for residency will be given to homeless persons who currently live on the streets of downtown Honolulu and Chinatown. The River Street Residences will be developed and managed by a nonprofit agency selected by the City and County of Honolulu. The River Street Residences will provide affordable housing and a program of services designed to help people who are homeless successfully transition back into the community in a safe, supportive environment that will include 24-hour staffing and security.

Why the River Street Residences

The solution to homelessness is housing. Throughout the nation, projects like the River Street Residences have shown that:

- ✓ The cost to government of providing affordable housing and services to people experiencing homelessness is significantly less than the costs associated with the same individuals revolving in and out of the criminal justice system and our emergency rooms.
- ✓ Offering people who are homeless a direct pathway to housing encourages them to come in off the streets and provides access to treatment and services.
- ✓ According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, "*The most successful model for housing people who experience chronic homelessness is permanent supportive housing using a Housing First approach.*"

Questions?

Please call Keith Ishida of the Department of Community Services at 768-7750.